

NORTH
HILL

Golf ✓ company kicked out

Judge revokes injunction

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DUXBURY – A Middlesex Superior Court judge has vacated the injunction that permitted Johnson Golf to operate the North Hill Country Club while its battle with the town goes on.

Johnson Golf filed suit against the town after another company was awarded the contract to operate the golf course. The company won a court ruling that places it in charge of the course under the rules of the expired contract during the course of the trial.

The company's failure to post a court-ordered \$500,000 bond to protect the town in case it went out of business was what prompted Judge Herman Smith Jr.'s ruling. He also ordered any membership fees collected placed in escrow until Johnson Golf secures the bond.

Selectmen voted to terminate Johnson Golf's contract at their Oct. 18 meeting, citing the lack of a bond as one of the issues. At the time, Stephen Follansbee, attorney for Johnson Golf, said he planned to ask the judge to reconsider amount of the bond, arguing that it was too high. In a later interview Follansbee stated the board "had no authority" to take such an action, since the company was operating the course under court order.

A pre-trial hearing will likely take place in the spring.

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